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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Manabu HONMA, et al.

U.S. Serial No.: 10/576,940

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: : April 24, 2006

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: PROCESSING APPARATUS

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO-1449) which lists the U.S. reference cited in the Supplementary European Search Report dated July 25, 2007 issued for counterpart Appln. No. EP 04 79 2538. JP2003-257958 was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement dated August 30, 2006 and therefore is not being cited herewith.

Applicants certify under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

It is respectfully requested that the cited document be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

Respectfully submitted,
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By: _____


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